

# FramingHAM Circuit

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## It's Official, Flea Market Another Success

From preliminary indications, it looks as if our semi-annual Flea Market has been another success. According to Treasurer Dick Marshall, WA1KUG, 684 people passed through the gates of the April 14 event. Dick will have a complete report on the Flea Market at our next meeting Thursday May 2 at 7:30 p.m. It looks as though the Crosby Scholarship benefited quite nicely from the event.

*May 1985*

As usual, our May meeting is also surprise night and President Bob Press, KB1EW, has a nice one planned for the meeting. However, you'll have to come to find out.

Among the business which will be discussed at the meeting will be Field Day and this year's promises to be very interesting. For starters, we will be using a new site, Bowditch Field off Union Avenue in Framingham. The reason for the switch from our traditional Badger Road site is for publicity. The Field Day Committee wants to increase our exposure to the public so they will see what Amateur Radio is all about. Further, it looks as if there will be some interesting antenna configurations. However, Dick, Field Day chairman, will have more about this at the meeting.

There will also be other interesting business at this meeting. It's the time of year when the nominating committee is named to choose next year's officers -- where did the year go? -- and Bob will have more about this at the meeting. We'll also likely be informed of the Scholarship winners at this meeting by members of the Scholarship Committee.

In other possible business, FAAREN Manager Marc Stern, N1BLH, will have a few words about the net and its affiliation with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Since we are a Special Service Club it is one of our functions to conduct emergency and public service communications, which we have done for years. The affiliation with ARES is merely the culmination of a long process which began with the formation of the net four years ago. Applications will be available at the meeting.

Finally, there will probably be a report from Education Committee Chairman Ed Weiss, W1NXC, on this year's successful class. Ed and Jim Boates, WA1UEH, spent many Saturday mornings from September to April guiding nine people through the licensing process to the point where all of them either have passed their Novice license test and have received their tickets or have upgraded. But, more about that at the meeting.

The FramingHAM Circuit is published monthly by the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn., Inc., P.O. Box April 3005, Framingham, MA 01701. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month from September to June at club headquarters in the Danforth Museum, Lexington Street, Framingham. Club activities include the Framingham Flea Markets, Field Day and the Crosby Scholarship. Club Station: W1FY. Repeater, W1FY/R, 147.75/15.

Pres., Bob Press, KB1EW, 655-1710  
V.P., Burt Shaffer, N1DDO, 872-0534  
Trs., Dick Marshall, WA1KUG, 877-0563  
Sec., Ken Horton, KA1GFN, 485-6542  
Trustee, Lew Nyman, K1AZE, 879-7456.  
Corp. Counsel, Arthur Marshall, Esq.  
Ed., Marc Stern, N1BLH, club box.

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### Packet Talk Highlights April Meeting

The highlight of the April meeting was a presentation on packet radio by Bob Gettys, N1BRM, who brought an entire packet radio setup to the club station. Not only did Bob give a complete and thorough presentation on the topic, but he also provided a live demonstration for club members.

From Bob's talk, the club gained an insight into the up and coming mode of communications which provided error-free communication and provides a link between personal computers.

The meeting began at 8 p.m. with congratulations going to Hal Alman, WN1TKD, who set up this year's banquet at the Medway VFW Hall. A total of 79 people came to the event and everyone who attended had a great time as both the music and company were very good.

The brief business session concentrated on the Flea Market and Lew Nyman, K1AZE, chairman of the committee, passed around a signup sheet for those who weren't present at the March meeting where preliminary signup was held. At that time, there were between 50 and 60 reservations, however, as usual the event turned out to be a sell-out. The Downtown Deli was to handle the food concession at the Flea Market.

In other business, Bob DaSilva, N1DGL, was voted membership in the club.

After the business session and Bob's, N1BRM, talk, members moved from the meeting room to club headquarters where they had a live demonstration of packet radio and pastry and coffee supplied by the hospitality committee.

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W1FY/R Report

By Lew Nyman, K1AZE  
Trustee, W1FY/R

Since the installation of our new repeater antenna, we have been receiving excellent signal reports from all directions. Our range has been increased and our noise problems eliminated. We are still using a temporary low-power amplifier and plan to procure a more permanent higher power amplifier in the near future.

Some of our newer repeater users may not be familiar with the tail messages we have programmed into the repeater. These messages are CW abbreviations you may hear periodically after the courtesy tone.

The three messages which are currently programmed are "FRAM," "MEET," and "NET." "FRAM" is used during our Flea Market talk-in activity to let visitors know that it is the Framingham Repeater they are using. "NET" is used on Sundays to remind everyone of our Sunday evening FAAREN nets. "MEET" is used on meeting days to remind everyone of the FARA club meeting. If you hear "NET" being used at any other time, it would indicate a special net is in progress.

Another feature our repeater has for members only are three-digit emergency access code numbers. These numbers direct the repeater's microprocessor to automatically dial the Framingham Police, State Police and Natick Police.

It is not necessary to access the dial tone as these code numbers do this for you.

These codes should not be given out over the air, but may be accessed by a member to assist a nonmember wishing to report a road emergency. Also, members may access the dial tone for out of town visiting mobile hams who wish to make an autopatch. This is a common courtesy practiced by most repeater groups throughout the country.

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Jackets Available; First order expected shortly

There's really been a flurry of interest in club jackets. The first order went to our supplier in mid-April and included 17 jackets, many more than had actually been expected by the committee, since the idea for jackets was only first proposed at the March meeting.

The jackets, which will be a royal blue and which will have a stylized screen print of the club medallion, have not only the operator's name, but also the call on the front right lapel. The emblem is on the left front lapel and the club's initials FARA are on the back.

Sized from women's extra small to triple extra-large for men, the shell jackets are also flannel lined so they can be used during the spring, summer and fall. The jackets are a good addition to the club t-shirts, which many of us have and they will help us promote the club when we are in public.

If you would like to order a jacket, contact either Marc, N1BLH, at the meeting or Marjie, KA1HIA. You can also reach them on the repeater or by dropping a note to the club box.

The first order of jackets should be delivered just about meeting day or a little after, according to our supplier.

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#### FAAREN Notes

Although our year may be winding down, there is one activity which will continue through the summer, the Framingham Amateur Radio Emergency Net. The reason is simple: we always have to be ready to provide communications in the event of an emergency or public service event.

The FAAREN net is a semi-formal, directed net. Stations check in to net control and they must direct their comments and requests to net control. This may seem unnecessary, but it is because in an emergency, the net control station must maintain order on the repeater, which we will use as our primary means of communication. There are some times where simplex will also be used, but those times are rare.

If you listen to many traffic and emergency nets, you will find they use long and involved message and traffic-handling procedures. However, on FAAREN we strive for effective communication, rather than just number-counting, so we dispense with those formalities. In an emergency, they are really just so much baggage. I know that people will disagree with me, but we honestly do use message forms, albeit internally, at, for instance, the Emergency Operations Center.

FAAREN is also one of the operating arms of the local Civil Defense effort. It is one of the reasons we obtained our club station and several operators serve in high-level CD communications positions. For example, Ken Horton, KA1GFN, club secretary, is also communications officer for the Town of Southborough. Likewise, Marc, N1BLH, is not only emergency coordinator for ARRL in this area, but is also communications officer, Framingham.

From its initials, you can see FAAREN is widespread. We have to be because of the broad coverage of our club. We also aim to provide wide coverage in communications and to that end we need your help, please contact the local Civil Defense body in your town and let them know about us. We'd be happy to talk with them. Or, if you'd like to be active, consider taking a role. You'll find it rewarding.

One last note, FAAREN is also an ARES net and will soon be a RACES (Civil Defense)-affiliated net, but more about this at the meeting.

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A Tip of the Editor's Hat To . . .

. . . The entire Flea Market crew for conducting another successful flea market. A special tip of the hat to Lew, K1AZE, for being chairman of this semi-annual event.

. . . The Marshall clan -- Dick, WA1KUG, Marsha, KA1JIR, Sharon, N1CUJ, Chris, KA1MSI, Steve and Karen. Sharon and Chris are expecting their first child, as are Steve and Karen. And, while all this has been happening, Chris has upgraded to technician and is awaiting his new call.

. . . Mark Shaffer, KA1MDU, for upgrading to technician. Mark is also busy preparing for his upcoming wedding and entrance to law school, so his upgrade comes at a very busy time. His proud parents are Toby, N1DDS, and Burt, N1DDO, Shaffer. Burt is our vice president.

. . . The entire class of 1984-85 for successfully completing our study course. The class, which included our youngest operator, Adam Weiner, KA1MSC, is to be congratulated. Most of our students have now upgraded.

. . . George Blakeslee, N1GB, scholarship committee chairman, for conducting another successful search for qualified applicants for the Crosby Scholarship.

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Swap & Shop

For Sale: A Hammarlund HQ-180 receiver with an external speaker. This rig is in excellent condition and would make a good receiver for any Novice who is setting up a first station. It covers .54 to 30 MHz. The best offer takes it. Contact Hans Kunz, WB40EY, at 872-8549.

For Sale: Like-new MC-35 high-impedances hand mic for Kenwood transceivers. Noise-cancelling feature. \$25. Contact Marc, N1BLH, on repeater or drop a note to the club box.

For Sale: Heathkit Electronic Design Experimenter board. Features include a signal generator, variable 1-15 VDC power supply, two 60 Hz signal sources of 15-30 VAC, breadboard, 100 ohm/1Kohm potentiometers. Factory assembled and tested. \$40. Contact Marc, N1BLH.

For Sale: Mint condition Swan 350D transceiver with digital frequency display. This rig covers 80 to 10 meters. Package includes D-104 microphone. \$350. Call Ted, WB1ECE, at 881-3786.

For Sale: Mint condition radioteletype demodulator. This first-rate package is the HAL ST-6 RTTY Terminal Unit. Asking \$150. Call Lew, K1AZE, at 879-7456.

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Social Events

June 6: June meeting, elections, plan to attend.

June 22-23: Field Day, the event we've been waiting for all year. Details at both May and June meeting. New site: Bowditch Field, Framingham.

Sunday May 5: The Hampden County Radio Association will hold a flea market at the West Springfield Lodge of Elks on Morgan Road, West Springfield from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission \$1, tables \$3, or \$3 per vehicle for tailgaters. Food and refreshments available.

Saturday May 11: New England's Biggest Ham Radio flea market, the Hoss Traders Swapfest. The 12th annual will be held at the Deerfield fairgrounds in Deerfield NH., rain or shine. Friday night camping opens at 4 p.m. Friday. The fees will be collected by the Fair Grounds Association. Admission \$2, tailgating included. Good food available. All profits benefit the Boston Burns unit of the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children. Talk-in on .52 direct or 146.40/147. Questions can be answered by sending an S.A.S.E. to Joe Demaso K1RQG, Star Route, Box 56, Bucksport, ME.

Saturday May 18: The 76 flea market and auction will be held at The Steers Beach Club Waterman Lake, Greenville, RI. from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The auction starts at noon. Use I-295 to exit 7B and then take route 44 west 3.4 miles, the beach club is on the left. Food available, free parking, talk-in on .16/.76 and 34/.94. Flea Market space is \$3. Auction has 10 percent commission on all sales, except 5 percent should the item sold bring in excess of \$50. Bank Americard purchases are 2 percent paid by the buyer.

Saturday June 29: Fly into N.H.'s 3rd largest electronic flea market at the Manchester Airport, Manchester, NH. General admission is \$1. Sellers \$5 per space. Bring your umbrella and table or tailgate. The event is sponsored by the New Hampshire FM Association. Talk-in on 146.52 direct. For More info call 603-622-0831 or 603-668-8880. Rain Date is Sunday 30 June.

Saturday and Sunday July 20-21: The first Heavy Hitters Hamfest will be held at the Topsfield Fairgrounds on Route 1 in Topsfield, Mass. Events should include a large outdoor flea market, commercial exhibitors, ARRL/VEC exams, demos, foxhunts, CW. contests, camping, food. We want to make this a big event! Help is needed from one and all to do this. Please contact Eliot Mayer W1MJ, 20 Driftwood Drive, Tewksbury, Ma. 01876. 617-851-0183

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## Weather Net To Sponsor Training Session; All Welcome

If you're interested in helping the Radio Amateurs Interstate Weather Net conduct its weather-spotting functions and if you're interested in finding out how you can help report severe weather, should a weather warning be declared, then you'll be interested in a training session planned by RAIN for May 16 in Framingham.

The instructor-lecturer for the evening will be Tom Maguire, chief meteorologist at the National Weather Service, Logan Airport, Boston. Mr. Maguire will bring with him audio-visual aides and pamphlets to help you understand how to report and spot severe weather occurrences.

The training session will be held at the Danforth Museum, beginning at 7:30 p.m. sharp, and refreshments will be served. Talk-in will be on the 147.15 repeater. For further information, contact Bob Gettys, N1BRM, or Marc Stern, N1BLH.

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## President's Corner

Nominations of officers of the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn. for the next year will be announced by the nominating committee at the May 2nd meeting. If you are interested in holding office and wish to be considered for addition to the slate to be presented, contact the nominating committee chairman, Jon Weiner, K1VVC, at 877-7166 prior to the meeting. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor during the meeting. Elections will be held at the June meeting, at which time the terms of the new officers begin.

As you are reading this newsletter, a group of four members of the club are winging their way to the Dayton Ham Convention. We are looking forward to an exciting weekend at the Convention, and expect to return with some new gear and info. A report of our adventure will be given at the meeting.

I would like to add my thanks to those who participated in the conduct of the flea market. We have come to take for granted that the flea market will be successful every six months. A tremendous amount of work behind the scenes is involved in making the arrangements and the actual conduct of the event. Our unsung heroes of the flea market are chairman Lew, K1AZE, Dick, WA1KUG, Jon, K1VVC, and volunteer examiner chairman Ed, W1NXC. We couldn't have done it without them.

73,

Bob, KB1EW

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